

*Treasures  
of  
Pioneer History*

Compiled by

**KATE B. CARTER**

*Kate B. Carter*  
*Feb. 15 - 62*



**Daughters of Utah Pioneers**

**Salt Lake City, Utah**

**1957**

**VOLUME SIX**



## PHILEMON C. MERRILL COMPANY

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Philemon came to the Salt Lake Valley after his honorable discharge from service with Captain Jefferson Hunt and seven other members of the Battalion, arriving October 11, 1847, where he found his father, mother and two sisters. He returned to Winter Quarters for his family and came back to Utah October 16, 1849. In 1851 he went to the States and brought forty-four wagons with goods back for Thomas S. Williams.

Mr. Merrill filled a mission to Europe in 1853-56 and on his return was put in charge of a wagon company crossing the plains to Utah. At various times he lived in Provo, Farmington, Morgan County, Utah, Soda Springs, Idaho, thence to Bennington and, in 1876 was called to the southern country, settling in Arizona. He was afterwards ordained a Patriarch in the St. Joseph Stake, Arizona. He died September 15, 1904 at Thatcher, Arizona.

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"On the 14th of August we nooned in a little valley between what is called Big and Little Mountains. This valley is at the head of Parley's canyon. No road down there, travel went over Little Mountain and down Emigration canyon. While nooning there a small train of wagons under the charge of Br. Parrish came along in a rush. They had left Florence about the same time as our train and we had encountered them once or twice on the Platte bottoms. They had bragged of beating us into Salt Lake City by two weeks or more, as their company was small and would have the advantage of feed, etc. Teams, they said, would be in a better condition, but when they understood the climb of the hill, the roads being slippery with showers, their teams gave out and had to double and triple in some cases. Well, we had quite a time also in getting over the mountains. We had to camp in Emigration canyon that night. Early the next morning we hitched up and about four miles down the canyon the road passed over what is termed as Hogs Back, a road cut through a hill. And then we had a full view of Salt Lake City and valley. There was the blue water of Salt Lake in the far west and the beautiful settlements in the foreground. Enchanting to the eye, there was

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"Along in June, 1859 the west half of Heber was laid off in city lots, and in July we moved camp to that city and then commenced hauling logs and building a house. In the spring of 1860 many families moved up from Provo, I believe forty families. On the 14th of July, William Fenn was found drowned in the Provo River. The river was high and in crossing on foot the current took him down. He had been in the stream about two weeks. Had to move him on a sheet, dug a hole in the bank of the river and buried him there. Father Wood acted as coroner."

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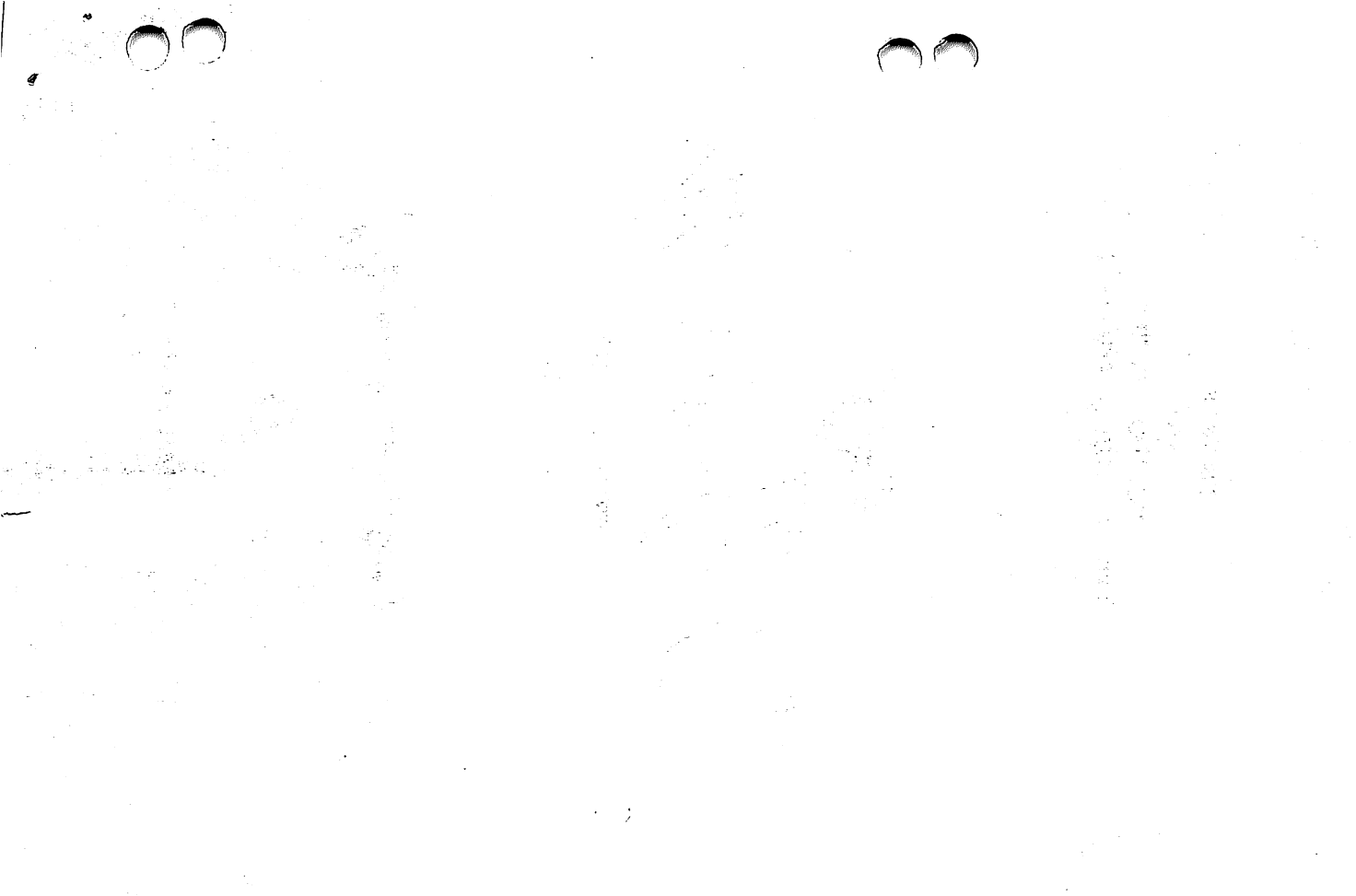


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